

United Family of Chieftain Readers.

THE CHIEFTAIN goes this week not only to its former list of readers, but also to those who were good enough to let us count them readers of the Daily. In transferring the list it is possible that some of the names were missed, as they will all be checked in next week, the errors, if any, will be caught and rectified. The Chieftain is grateful to the friends who have continued with it so loyally through all the years, and especially are we grateful to the readers of the Daily, who, during the last months, have not only endured, but, as a matter of local pride, have defended it and even braggled it to strangers. There was a time when the Daily Chieftain was a good paper—when it made money. Mr. Mays made a success of it, but, since his time, conditions have changed. Blank paper is higher, hours of labor have been shortened, and expenses in a general way have increased. The invasion of the field by out-of-town papers has had a tendency to reduce the circulation of the home Daily, which could not at this time afford to compete without installing expensive machinery. Hence, the Daily Chieftain died. We do not expect the Weekly Chieftain to fill the daily's field. The Weekly Chieftain has a field of its own. The Daily, without being a success itself, stood in the way of the weekly, which is too valuable to be sacrificed. We hated to see it go, but—well, it is all over now, and, with the Chieftain family of readers all united on our weekly books we hope to be able to give a better service, and do more good for the community than would have been possible with the lists divided and two editions to handle. As to the future of the Weekly, we are going to make it just as good as we can. Without any frills or new-fangled ideas, it will be an old-fashioned country newspaper—just as it always has been. We'll not be too stingy to send the paper on time for a spell to the farmer who doesn't happen to have a dollar in his pocket right now; we'll not be too proud to take stove wood on subscription, and if somebody happens to bring in a big pumpkin or a mess of string beans or some other sort of garden sass we'll thank the contributor from the bottom of our heart and our wife and children will rejoice also and be exceedingly glad.

The writer of this article was born on a farm. He got his education following a span of lop-eared mules down a crooked corn row. He learned the printing trade in a country office, and he couldn't "run" anything but a "country" newspaper if he tried. At this time he'd even be afraid to tackle the mules again. If the Chieftain continues as a good paper, kindly say a good word about it to your friends.

His Business Good In Oklahoma.

George S. Dickerson, representing the southern branch of the Mergenthau Linotype company, with headquarters in New Orleans, was in Vinita Tuesday and spent the forenoon visiting the water, with whom he worked on the San Antonio, Texas, Daily Express, in 1891. Mr. Dickerson says that his business has been very good in Oklahoma, and that it was not in any way affected by the panic. During the last few weeks he has installed a number of machines and has several orders now for immediate shipment. The fact that so many Mergenthauers have been sold recently in this state is splendid evidence that Oklahoma publishers are not only progressive, but that they are keeping abreast the times.

The CHIEFTAIN LATCHSTRING HANGS OUTSIDE

The Chieftain's latch string hangs on the outside, and we extend a most cordial invitation to our friends in the country to call and see us when in town. Nearly everybody in Craig county knows where the Chieftain office is located—next door to the court house—and when you come in to attend court, transact other business, or do your buying of family supplies, you can easily find us. We would be glad to have you drop in and get acquainted. We receive a large number of exchanges each week, and if you want some of these to take

home with you, the same may be had for the asking. Perhaps there are papers in the lot that would be of interest to you and your family, and we'd much rather give them to friends who would enjoy reading them than to sell them later as "old papers." When you come to town, if you have a bundle, a package, a grip-sack, or anything else which you wish to store for safe keeping while you run around and do your trading, bring it to the Chieftain. Our office is open all day, we have plenty of room, and we shall be glad to accommodate our friends.

The Chieftain is sending out a number of sample copies this week, and, if you happen to receive one of them, we would be glad to have you look it over. This issue of the Chieftain is hardly what we expect to make the paper, as, in the cleaning up of the shop after the death of the daily, we have hardly had time to do the work which should have been done. By next week, though, we should be straightened out in good shape. The Chieftain has been the old home paper of this community for many years, and we hope that you who are not among its

readers may decide after reading a few copies to become members of the great Chieftain family. We are making a special offer of the Oklahoma Farm Journal free for one year to old subscribers who renew, and also to new subscribers who enroll with us during the next few weeks. If you are a farmer and wish to keep posted on Oklahoma farm news it will be to your interest to read the ad which appears at the top of the back page of this issue of the Chieftain. It tells the whole story in a nutshell and gives you a fair description of the Journal.

Here Is a Tale of Things That Happened In the Village of Vinita 25 Long Years Ago

For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that we can do.

HIDDEN AWAY in an unused corner of the Chieftain office, forgotten perhaps by all save those who manipulate the leaden messengers that he who runs may read, the writer unearthed the other day a musty volume containing what is said to be the first printed record of current events in the city of Vinita—the first fifty-two issues of the Indian Chieftain. At the head of the paper appears the four lines quoted above, and the mission of the periodical could not have been more clearly stated. The first issue of the Chieftain appeared on Friday, September 22, 1882. It consisted of four seven-column pages, two pages printed at time and two pages printed by the Kellogg patent house, Wm. Hollingsworth was business manager. At the head of the second page appeared the name of Gus Ivey, as editor. Mr. Ivey is gone from this newspaper field, but his work remains. In his introductory remarks to the people Editor Ivey said: "The Chieftain is no temporary concern, but is here to stay." Editor Ivey spoke the truth. The Chieftain is here today—the same paper—though a quarter of a century has passed—and on its books are the names of citizens who subscribed in the beginning. The old files of the Chieftain are time-stained, the corners of the sheets are "dog-eared," and the ink is faded, but the stories told of early life in the Cherokee nation are still readable—stories which, when retold will bring back pleasant memories to the older citizens, and which will be read with great interest by the new-comers and the younger generations.

Among the advertisers in the first issue of the Chieftain were J. M. Bell, attorney, whose relative, L. B. Bell, is a retired attorney in Vinita today; H. Balentine, grocer, whose widow now lives on her farm a few miles north of town; George Davis, meat dealer, who died recently and whose family still lives in Vinita; J. S. Callin, proprietor of San Francisco hotel, which stood on the present location of the Cobb; Dr. L. O. Ellis, dentist; M. L. Timberlake, lumber dealer; J. H. Atkins, attorney; W. L. Green, painter, whose two sons, W. L. and B. F. are still in Vinita; G. W. Green, general merchant, who is now in the hay business at Kelso; Wm. Little, grocer, now a Vinita banker; W. T. Beatty, blacksmith, now a large property holder and still a resident of Vinita; W. W. Miller, confectioner, now in the cattle business near Bartlesville; and the owner of large oil properties; Robert Ironside, grocer, who owns property in Vinita and is now at Nowata; Dr. M. Frazer, physician and surgeon, who died a few

years ago; Dr. M. Haynes, physician and surgeon, who now lives on his farm near White Oak; L. B. Bell, attorney, still a resident of Vinita; W. R. Corderay, meat dealer; C. C. Ironside, grocer, now at Miami; J. T. McSpadden, liveryman; Mrs. S. E. Effert, milliner, who now lives at Fort Gibson; Dr. A. W. Foreman, physician and surgeon, who is now in drug business in Vinita; G. W. Parsons, photographer; A. C. Raymond, furniture dealer; and Goodykoontz & Chamberlain, grain and hay dealers. Out-of-town advertisers were John F. Lyons, attorney, Fort Gibson; M. F. Kennedy, superintendent stage line from Muskogee to Fort Smith, who made the 84 miles in twenty-four hours; John G. Schrimsher, merchant at Owawa.

The first annual announcement of Worcester Academy, now one of Vinita's public schools, occupies a prominent place in the paper. It states that the school had five rooms, and four teachers, and that special attention was given to teaching of business methods, music, drawing and painting. A. P. Goodykoontz was president, G. W. Green was treasurer, and A. W. Timberlake was secretary. These gentlemen, together with L. B. Bell, Nathaniel Skinner, W. C. Chamberlain and J. C. Trott constituted the board of directors of the academy.

Another matter which is given considerable prominence in the first issue of the Chieftain is the announcement of the first annual exposition of the Vinita Fair and Agricultural Association, which was held here October 17, 18 and 19, 1882. The premiums offered amounted to \$1,200. Among the speakers announced we find the names of Gov. John S. Phelps of Missouri, Hon. M. E. Benton of Nebraska, Hon. John P. St. John of Kansas, Hon. C. W. Blair of Fort Scott, Hon. W. P. Ross of the Cherokee Nation, Rev. Allen Wright of the Choctaw Nation, Gov. Overton of the Chickasaw Nation, Hon. G. W. Grayson of the Creek Nation, Hon. Charles Morgan of Missouri, Rev. W. A. Duncan of the Cherokee Nation, Hon. L. B. Bell of the Cherokee Nation, Hon. W. A. Stone of Nevada, Mo., Principal Chief D. W. Bushyhead of the Cherokee, Hon. H. B. Downing of the Cherokee Nation, Hon. R. Bunch of the Cherokee Nation and Hon. Samuel Smith of the Cherokee Nation. The fair advertised twelve departments and there yet are living residents of Vinita who well remember that the event was a decided success, people coming many miles to attend it. Mrs. Henry Effert was president of the ladies' department, James W. Skinner was in charge of the speed ring, Clem Rogers looked after the interests of the horse and mule department, James O. Hall was overseer of the cattle department, Jonathan Gore was superintendent of

the swine department, Taylor Foreman was superintendent of the goat and sheep department, John Swain was superintendent of the poultry department, L. B. Bell was superintendent of the farm implement exhibits, W. T. Beatty was in charge of the manufactures, Judge Joel Mays was superintendent of the farm products, S. S. Stephens was superintendent of the horticultural department, and Mrs. A. P. Goodykoontz was superintendent of the Indian work. The officers of the fair association were, R. W. Lindsey, president; R. D. Knight, secretary, and George W. Green, treasurer.

On the editorial page of the Chieftain appeared an executive order to sheriffs, the same being signed by D. W. Bushyhead, principal chief, and John L. Adair, assistant executive secretary. This order instructed the sheriffs and constables to enforce the laws against the selling of intoxicating liquors and the carrying of concealed weapons. An able article, signed R. H. E. also appeared on the editorial page. This article appeared as a eulogy on the life and works of H. B. (Huckleberry) Downing, who died a short time previous.

Another feature of the editorial page was a two-column write-up of Vinita, which a week before had appeared in the Sedalia, Mo., Bazar. It refers in a very complimentary way to a number of the leading citizens, and we shall be pleased to reproduce the entire article in some future issue.

On the local page of Vol. 1, No. 1, was told the story of everyday life in the village of Vinita. We reproduce a number of items, just as they appeared in the paper at that time—Friday, September 22, 1882. The local department of the paper was headed "Local Logs," and under this heading we find the following: Huckleberry Bell is chilling doors and windows at Raymond's.

Rev. A. N. Chamberlain was in town this week. This week we send out 1,000 copies of the Chieftain. Cider seemed to have had a bad effect on the boys Saturday. A. P. Goodykoontz is putting up a fine barn. Robert Tittle is building a nice residence in the southeast part of town. James Martin from Big Creek was in town Monday. Jake and Alex say Jim Hall must keep his mouth shut about that court house business. C. W. Lynch has about 75,000 bricks for sale at the Vinita brick yard. Work on the Worcester academy is progressing finely. School will commence immediately after the fair. John Duncan ("Red Cloud") we are sorry to learn is prostrated in Flint district with a severe attack of rheumatism. Major Lyons, Col. O. P. Brewer, Judge George Sanders and Capt. Gid Morgan passed through Vinita a few days ago bound for West 96. Subscriptions to Worcester academy now amount to considerably over \$1,000.

We hope soon to give a full description of the building. C. H. Kidd and Miss Nettie McGuire were married at the San Francisco house by Prof. Scoggs on Monday evening, September 18. Francis Fritz built the foundation wall of Worcester academy. The boss carpenter says it is one of the best he ever saw. We congratulate Fritz. Rev. Charles Duncan, brother of our distinguished fellow countryman, W. A. Duncan, died at his home in the lower part of the nation a few days ago. Sam Walker, a young man living with his father, L. Walker, on White Oak creek, six miles south of here, was kicked and killed by a horse last Tuesday.

A. W. Timberlake, our lumberman, says there never has been so much building in this part of the country as there is now. Nine or ten carpenters are here from the states, in addition to a dozen or more who are citizens. Verily, Vinita boometh.

Worcester academy is named in memory of Rev. Dr. S. A. Worcester. May the spirit of the old heroic missionary so pervade it that his influence may become immortal among us. Vinita has been afflicted with considerable notoriety on account of the alleged attempt at train robbery last week. And yet not a single Indian or citizen of Vinita had anything whatever to do with it. We learn that the Frisco road will be extended 100 miles further. This will give us 167 miles of road west of Vinita. The new extension will have to be made in order to render the present extension profitable. A sheet of paper was found on a desk in one of our prominent business houses the other day with the name of a certain charming young damsel written all over it as close as possible. On inquiring where it was, one of the clerks acknowledged the note and told them to laugh at his expense.

Rev. Mr. Williams, who has been in charge of the M. E. church in this city for the past year preached his farewell sermon last Sabbath evening. A. H. Norwood has given a car load of lumber to Worcester academy, which makes the fourth car load of material for it. Mr. Norwood deserves the greatest credit for his generous gift. We can not honor such men too much. And in addition to earthly honors, "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." Captain Huckleberry Downing died at his home in Flint district last Sunday week. Capt. Downing was one of the great Indians of the Cherokee Nation, and his death is mourned by many throughout the whole nation. The Frisco railroad is now completed to the Arkansas river, about sixty-five miles west of this place. S. S. Stephens has resigned the teachership of the Vinita public school. No one has yet been appointed to teach in his place. We hope Hon. R. L. Owen will appoint a good man to fill the position as we want a good school.

Telling Again the Tales Told Years Ago.

ON THIS page appears this week a review of the first issue of the Chieftain ever printed. The news contained therein is old news—so old that now it is really new again—and we feel that it will be considered by our readers as one of the very best things in the paper. The older citizens will find in this review many things of interest; they will find the names of old friends—friends who were boys when they were boys; they will read of incidents which have long been forgotten, and which, otherwise, would not have been recalled. They will glory again in the enterprises of other days—days away back yonder when the land was young, and the heart was light, and hope held many promises of the future. They will dream again the dreams of youth—of love, of home, of honors to be won; they will note again now by degrees the God of Progress has transformed the village of Vinita into a city; they will see again the open prairie where the cattle grazed; they will see again the frontier life with all its charms and opportunities, and then they'll see God's own outdoors fenced in with jagged wire and crooked posts and they'll see the open field become a hay field and the hay field become a corn field and the corn field become a later patch—and then they'll see the husky farmer load the taters on a farm wagon and take them to town to sell to the merchants whose advertisements were in the first issue of the Chieftain. And then the vision will end, and the fact will be driven deeply into the mind—that fact—that time really does go by. In the making of an eternity, a quarter of a century is not such an exceedingly long spell. In the span of an ordinary mortal's life it is quite awhile after all, thank you, and those who read with the greatest interest the old-time Vinita as we print today will realize, perhaps, that it was—in the last quarter of a century, they made the plans and formed the characters which have brought the successes of today, or that it was within that period they fought it out with fate and won their greatest achievements. To the younger generations, the story of the past is always full of interest. Some races and fads during every term of school in every hamlet, the battle of Waterloo has been fought a thousand times with a thousand mud balls on a thousand playgrounds; Washington has crossed the Delaware at morning, noon and night, and leaky shoes have told the story of his trials. The boy of today, perhaps, will be glad to know that dad went to school in that same old school house—Worcester academy, now a public school. He will be glad to know, perhaps, that Vinita had a real old-fashioned country fair a quarter of a century ago, and that boys at that time revelled in the glories of roasted peanuts, much as they do today. He will be glad to know something of the men who made the country great—and why they did it. The "Old Time News" will now be a regular feature of the Chieftain, and week by week this paper will tell again the stories it told so many years ago—stories of birth, and life, and love, and death—the tale of a people as recorded by the only paper printed 25 years ago in this section of the country. In going over its old files, the Chieftain will seek to revive no unpleasant memories. That which might cause sadness will not be reproduced. If you will preserve the copies of the Chieftain containing these old time stories, you will not only have a record of the doings of today, but also of yesterday—and the day before yesterday and then some.